

Patent Abstracts of Japan

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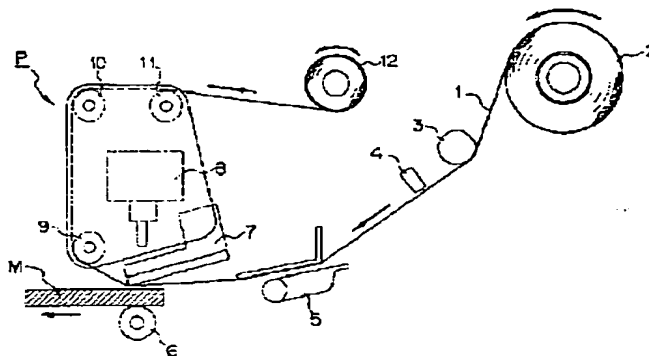
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TITLE : METALLIC CHARACTER PRINTING
AND PRINTING METHOD FOR LABEL
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ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To perform thermal transfer printing in metallic color on a thick article or three-dimensional molding by horizontally movably providing a printing head, and adjustably constituting it in a vertical height.

SOLUTION: A thermal ribbon 1 is a metallic color transfer metal deposited foil ribbon, unwound at a predetermined tension from a supply reel 2, and fed to a printing head 7 via a guide roll 3. At this time, slack or over of the ribbon 1 is detected by a ribbon detecting sensor 4. Then, the ribbon 1 is fed between a platen 6 and the head 7 via a guide mechanism 5, and wound on a ribbon winding roll 12 via ribbon drawing rolls 10, 12 after printing. A thick material M is placed between the platen 6 and the ribbon 1, and printed. The head 7 is longitudinally movably provided with respect to the material M, and is provided adjustably in a vertical direction corresponding to the thickness of the material M.

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